

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Currently Charter Communications has a monopoly in the St. Louis area. I believe this area has the highest cable rates in the nation. Please help capitalism prosper like the Fore Fathers intended.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Paul George
517 Cougar Village Apt. 1A
Edwardsville, IL 62025